

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GOP PUBLISHES REVOLUTION'S IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

REF: LIMA 1428

1. FRONT PAGE OF ALL LIME DAILIES FEBRUARY 26 WAS COMPLETELY DEVOTED TO PUBLICATION, WITHOUT COMMENT, OF INFORMATION OFFICE (OCI) RELEASE OF PRINCIPLES AND IDEOLOGICAL BASES FOR THE REVOLUTION. THIS DOCUMENT IS FURTHER RESPONSE (SEE REFTEL) TO PRESIDENT VELASCO'S FEBRUARY 17 SPEECH, WHEN HE CALLED ON PERUVIANS TO RALLY AROUND THE IDEALS OF THE REVOLUTION AND DECLARED THAT ONLY THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT ITSELF COULD DETERMINE PERU'S POLITICAL DIRECTION. DOCUMENT CALLS FOR BROAD SOCIAL PARTICIPATION BUT EXCLUDES BY INFERENCE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OUTSIDE MILGOV.

2. STATEMENT DEFINES PERUVIAN REVOLUTION AS NATIONALIST AND INDEPENDENT. "ITS DOCTRINAL BASE IS REVOLUTIONARY HUMANISM IN OPPOSITION TO SYSTEMS OF SOCIAL EXPLOITATION AND THOSE WHICH ARE DOGMATIC AND TOTALITARIAN. THEREFORE IT REJECTS CAPITALISM AND COMMUNISM. . ." DOCUMENT ASSERTS THAT REVOLUTIONARY HUMANISM IS AN AMALGAM OF SOCIALIST SOCIAL LIBERAL AND CHRISTIAN SOCIAL THINKING. SOCIALIST ROOTS INCLUDE LABOR AS SOURCE OF VALUE, MEANS OF PRODUCTION HELD AS SOCIAL PROPERTY, AN IMPORTANT ROLE

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FOR STATE OWNERSHIP, AND SURPLUS OR PROFIT FOR THE BENEFIT OF

BOTH PRODUCERS AND SOCIETY. LIBERAL BASES FOR REVOLUTIONARY HUMANISM INCLUDE THE TRADITION OF "AN INVIOABLE RIGHT TO INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND FREEDOM FROM ALL FORMS OF ARBITRARY ACTION". FROM CHRISTIAN SOCIAL THOUGHT COMES THE "INSPIRATION TO UPHOLD THE EQUALITY OF ALL MEN REJECTING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INJUSTICE. ONLY WITHIN A JUST SOCIETY CAN MAN DEVELOP TRUE LIBERTY AND FULLY REALIZE HIS POTENTIAL."

3. DOCUMENT OF PRINCIPLES STRESSED "PLURALIST" NATURE OF REVOLUTION AND RECOGNIZED "RIGHT OF ALL PERUVIANS TO CRITICIZE THE REVOLUTION AND TO ORGANIZE POLITICALLY WITH COMPLETE LIBERTY TO ESPOUSE OTHER POLICIES. GROUPS AND PARTIES PROPOSING ALTERNATIVE POLITICAL SOLUTIONS FOR PERU ARE LEGITIMATE." DOCUMENT CONCLUDED HOWEVER THAT REVOLUTION WOULD ESPOUSE ITS OWN VIEWS AND NOT ACCEPT "VIEWS WHICH CONTRADICT OR DISTORT ITS IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES".

4. COMMENT: THE DOCUMENT ON REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES IS A BIT OF A COLLAGE BRINGING TOGETHER THE RHETORIC AND SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTORY SOCIAL THOUGHT OF REVOLUTIONARY THINKERS. THE DOCUMENT APPEARS TO BE CONCILIATORY IN THAT IT REJECTS VIOLENCE ACCEPTS PLURALISM, AND ADOPTS LIBERALISM AS ONE OF THREE IDEOLOGICAL BASES FOR THE REVOLUTION. THE TONE OF THE DOCUMENT SUGGESTS THAT OPPOSITION PARTIES, SPECIFICALLY APRA, WILL NOT BE BANNED BUT WILL BE FREE TO ORGANIZE AS WELL AS CRITICIZE AND DISAGREE WITH THE REVOLUTION. THE DOCUMENT, HOWEVER, ALSO IMPLIES THAT THE REVOLUTION WILL FORCEFULLY DEFEND ITSELF IN THE POLITICAL ARENA AND WILL BE ON GUARD TO WARD OFF ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE ITS RANKS.

5. ALTHOUGH CONCILIATORY THE DOCUMENT DOES NOT MENTION AND THEREFORE EXCLUDES ANY POLITICAL PARTICIPATION BY POLITICAL PARTIES OR SOCIAL GROUPS. THE ONLY DECISION-MAKING POWER MENTIONED IS IN THE SOCIAL FIELD BE PRESUMABLY RELATING TO THE WORK PLACE, WHETHER FACTORY OR FARM. EVEN HERE DECISIONS STEMMING FROM THE "SOCIAL BASE" MUST BE IN ACCORD WITH THE NATION'S INTERESTS, PRESUMABLY AS DETERMINED BY THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT. THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT CLEARLY HAS NO INTENTION OF SHARING POWER. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WILL DEPEND ON RECENTLY CONSTITUTED ALL-MILITARY COMMISSION.
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6. IDEOLOGICAL EMPHASIS ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL THOUGHT DEMONSTRATES SOME MILGOV PHILOSOPHICAL DEPENDENCE ON CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT. IT IS PHILOSOPHICAL SUPPORT FOR A REVOLUTION SEEKING TO AVOID THE SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS OF CAPITALISM AND COMMUNISM.
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